22. The method of claim 19, wherein the agent comprises a plurality of covalently linked NKG2D-binding moieties of natural NKG2D ligands.

23. The method of claim 19, wherein the agent comprises a plurality of non-covalently linked NKG2D-binding moieties of natural NKG2D ligands, wherein the moieties are restricted to a common presenting surface.

24. The method of claim 19, wherein the agent comprises a plurality of non-covalently linked NKG2D-binding moieties of natural NKG2D ligands, wherein the moieties are restricted to a common presenting surface, wherein the common presenting surface is of a host-compatible cell transformed to express the binding moieties.

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25. The method of claim 19, wherein the agent comprises a plurality of non-covalently linked NKG2D-binding moieties of natural NKG2D ligands, wherein the moieties are restricted to a common presenting surface, wherein the common presenting surface is of a host-compatible cell transformed to express the binding moieties, wherein the natural NKG2D ligands are selected from the group consisting of MICA, MICB and ULBP.

26. The method of claim 19, wherein the agent comprises a plurality of non-covalently linked NKG2D-binding moieties of natural NKG2D ligands, wherein the moieties are restricted to a common presenting surface, wherein the common presenting surface is of a host-compatible cell transformed to express the binding moieties, wherein the cell is derived from the tumor.

27. The method of claim 19, wherein the agent comprises a plurality of linked NKG2D-binding moieties of natural NKG2D ligands, wherein the natural NKG2D ligands are selected from the group consisting of MICA, MICB and ULBP.

28. The method of claim 19, wherein the agent comprises a plurality of non-covalently linked NKG2D-binding moieties of natural NKG2D ligands, wherein the moieties are restricted to a

common presenting surface, wherein the common presenting surface is of a host-compatible cell transformed to express the binding moieties, wherein the natural NKG2D ligands are selected from the group consisting of MICA, MICB and ULBP, wherein the cell is derived from the tumor.

29. A method for inhibiting metastatic prostate tumor growth in a mammalian host expressing native NKG2D and determined to be predisposed to having a metastatic prostate tumor arising in situ and comprising prostate tumor cells, the method comprising steps:

administering to the mammalian host a composition comprising an NKG2D-binding agent, wherein the NKG2D-binding agent is multivalent, wherein the administering step is effective to inhibit growth of the tumor; and

detecting a resultant inhibition of growth of the tumor by evaluating growth of the tumor.

30. A method according to claim 29, wherein the administering is remote from the tumor.

31. The method of claim 29, wherein the agent comprises an NKG2D-specific antibody.

32. The method of claim 29, wherein the agent comprises a plurality of covalently linked NKG2D-binding moieties of natural NKG2D ligands.

33. The method of claim 29, wherein the agent comprises a plurality of non-covalently linked NKG2D-binding moieties of natural NKG2D ligands, wherein the moieties are restricted to a common presenting surface.

34. The method of claim 29, wherein the agent comprises a plurality of non-covalently linked NKG2D-binding moieties of natural NKG2D ligands, wherein the moieties are restricted to a common presenting surface, wherein the common presenting surface is of a host-compatible cell transformed to express the binding moieties.

35. The method of claim 29, wherein the agent comprises a plurality of non-covalently linked NKG2D-binding moieties of natural NKG2D ligands, wherein the moieties are restricted to a common presenting surface, wherein the common presenting surface is of a host-compatible cell transformed to express the binding moieties, wherein the natural NKG2D ligands are selected from the group consisting of MICA, MICB and ULBP.

36. The method of claim 29, wherein the agent comprises a plurality of non-covalently linked NKG2D-binding moieties of natural NKG2D ligands, wherein the moieties are restricted to a common presenting surface, wherein the common presenting surface is of a host-compatible cell transformed to express the binding moieties, wherein the cell is derived from the tumor.

37. The method of claim 29, wherein the agent comprises a plurality of linked NKG2D-binding moieties of natural NKG2D ligands, wherein the natural NKG2D ligands are selected from the group consisting of MICA, MICB and ULBP.

38. The method of claim 29, wherein the agent comprises a plurality of non-covalently linked NKG2D-binding moieties of natural NKG2D ligands, wherein the moieties are restricted to a common presenting surface, wherein the common presenting surface is of a host-compatible cell transformed to express the binding moieties, wherein the natural NKG2D ligands are selected from the group consisting of MICA, MICB and ULBP, wherein the cell is derived from the tumor.

REMARKS

Amendments

The new claims encompass targeting metastatic prostate tumors and address informalities and matters of style. New claims 19-28 correspond to canceled claims 1, 9-17 and new claim 29 corresponds to canceled claim 18. New claims 30-38 provide the same limitations as new claims 20-28. In the independent claims, "multivalent" has been moved to follow the modified "agent", the term "harbor" has been replaced with the equivalent "has", and the detecting step now recites